MAR 1 3 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY ON THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII WEST OAHU CAMPUS AND RELOCATE THE DEPARTMENT OF DENTAL HYGIENE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII WEST OAHU CAMPUS.

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii West Oahu completed work on the initial phase of its Kapolei campus in July of 2012; and

WHEREAS, dentistry continues to be an attractive profession with considerable interest among young people; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for more dentists to provide oral health care and offset an anticipated surge in retiring dentists; and

WHEREAS, many universities starting new schools are in an academic health center growth phase and desire to have dentistry as part of their program to provide students with interprofessional learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii does not presently have a school of dentistry offering a Doctor of Dental Medicine or Doctor of Dental Surgery degree; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii students who desire degrees in dentistry are forced to leave Hawaii and attend mainland schools; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii's Department of Dental Hygiene offers a Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene and provides the educational preparation required by dental hygienists to provide oral health care and continuing professional education to broaden and deepen their knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii is contemplating the transfer of the Department of Dental Hygiene to the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus; and

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WHEREAS, the establishment of a dental school on the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus would complement the transfer of the Department of Dental Hygiene to the West Oahu campus and provide the University of Hawaii with a comprehensive dental program with state-of-the-art clinical teaching facilities; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, that this body urges the University of Hawaii to establish a dental school on the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus with state-of-the-art clinical teaching facilities; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is encouraged to relocate the Department of Dental Hygiene to the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus and form a comprehensive dental education program with a new dental school; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents, President of the University of Hawaii System, University of Hawaii West Oahu Chancellor, Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, and Chairperson of the Department of Dental Hygiene.

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